

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors: Koji IMURA

Art Unit: 2151

Application No.: 09/787,289

Filed: March 15, 2001

For: CODING APPARATUS AND CODING METHOD OF TIME-VARYING IMAGE SIGNAL



#6
#5
11-24-03
RECEIVED
NOV 20 2003
TC 2600

RECEIVED

JUL 16 2003

Technology Center 2100

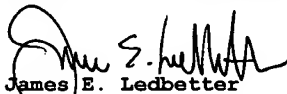
Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 99, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the art listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. JP '231 was cited in a Japanese Office Action dated April 15, 2003 (English translation attached).

Applicants present this art so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104 and 106. Applicants respectfully request that this art be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,


James E. Ledbetter
Registration No. 28,732

Date: July 15, 2003

JEL/apg

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. L9289.01121
STEVENS, DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P.
1615 L STREET, NW, Suite 850
WASHINGTON, DC 20043-4387
Telephone: (202) 785-0100
Facsimile: (202) 408-5200